

**Smörgåsbord**



Harold Johnson  
Publisher and  
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**Great Gift Idea  
For Christmas**

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Merry Christmas and please order today so we can give you special Christmas gift orders the prompt attention they deserve. Contact: FARM SHOW, Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044 (ph 612 469-5572).

**Conventional Silos Do A Better Job** — Cows produce more milk when fed out of a conventional concrete stave, top-unload silo than a bottom-unload oxygen-limiting structure — such as a Harvestore® — according to a first-ever long term University study comparing the two methods of storage.

Dairy specialist Howard Larsen of the University of Wisconsin compared two dairy herds over a period of 4 years. One herd of 20 cows was fed from a bottom-unload Harvestore and the other herd of 20 cows from a top-unload stave silo. Over the term of the studies he found cows produced nearly 2½ lbs. more milk per day when fed from the conventional silo, due primarily, to the better nutritional content of the forage. Larsen told

FARM SHOW the biggest problem with Harvestores, and other similar structures, is the use of bottom-unloaders and the center-fill method used to fill the structures.

"All silos are oxygen-limiting but the key is in how you handle the material once it's inside the silo. Bottom unloaders let oxygen into the silo which damages the quality of the forage," says Larsen. "Also, when you centerfill, you get a solid mass in the middle and it stays soft around the outer edges, which traps air. Distribution of silage as you fill has as much to do with the quality of feed as anything. We've found we can greatly improve quality by packing silage as we fill and we can also get 20 to 40% more silage in a silo."

The University of Wisconsin owns several Harvestores, including one at the Marshfield experiment station that's been there for 30 years. "We've never seen any practical advantage to this type of structure. In fact, they've always been a problem," he told FARM SHOW.

For a complete copy of Larsen's research report, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dept. of Dairy Science, University of Wisconsin, 266 Animal Sciences Bldg., Madison, Wis. 53706.

**The Amazing  
"Smile Machine"**

It doesn't do anything. It's been called everything from "a Rube Goldberg government red tape machine" to "a Billy Carter loan processor." Inventor H.B. Shriver, of Savannah, Ohio, calls it his "Smile Machine" because that's what it does best — makes people smile when they see this ingenious, do-nothing collection of junk in motion.

Powered by a 5 hp engine, it's mounted on a



2-wheel trailer for towing to fairs and shows. Billed as "the only one like it in the world," it features the wildest collection of moving gears, pulleys, shafts and chains you ever saw. You've got to see it to appreciate what Shriver's imagination has done to animate old sowing machines, mower parts, clocks, egg beaters and countless other bits and pieces he's picked up at junk yards, flea markets, and auction sales.

One sign warns viewers to "step back — it might explode." Another notes that there's a "patent pending."

Shriver put together a skeleton model four years ago and has been adding to it ever since. "Whenever I spot an empty space, I start looking for something to put in there that will turn, clang, spin or wiggle to get your attention," says Shriver. He's been offered \$1,500 for his "Smile Machine" but says he's having too much fun with his "plaything" and doesn't want to part with it.

**Newman's Energy Machine To Power Car** — That amazing new energy invention by Mississippi inventor Joe Newman will soon be installed in a car, powering it down the road at speeds up to 70 mph with no other power source than a 9-volt battery.

Newman (first featured in FARM SHOW's Vol. 8, No. 2) has been locked in a court battle with the

U.S. Patent Office for several years and will go to court again this winter. In the meantime he has decided to go ahead with the development of practical applications for his motor, which is controversial because it reportedly creates more energy than it consumes.

What's unusual about Newman's invention, as compared to other "perpetual motion" machines invented in the past, is that scores of respected scientists and professors who have had a chance to closely inspect the motor and run tests, say it not only produces enough electricity to recharge the batteries that get it started but also to run other electrical devices indefinitely. Newman explains the phenomenon by stating that he has discovered a new theory of electricity that taps the force of magnetic fields surrounding the earth in much the same way a water wheel taps the power of flowing water in a stream. Most scientists say they don't know why Newman's invention works but that they consider it a significant discovery that should be developed.

Newman predicts that one day all appliances will come with their own power packs, eliminating the need for home wiring or centralized power companies. His first home appliance, a household fan fitted with a mini-Newman motor, runs indefinitely on a small 9-volt motor. Now he's installing a 500-lb. Newman motor in a specially-built auto body frame. "The motor will be started by a 9-volt battery and there will be no other power source. The motor will recharge the battery as it powers the car. The car will have no cooling system, fuel lines, carburetion, or many of the other standard auto components that create many of the worst automobile problems," says Evan Soule, who has worked with Newman to help publicize his invention during his fight with the Patent Office.

Several bills have been introduced in Congress to grant Newman a patent. He hopes to finish work on the car this winter in order to drive to Washington, D.C. to give senators a demonstration. Newman has published a book, now in its fourth printing, that details construction and theory of the device.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Newman Energy Machine, Evan R. Soule, Jr., 1135 Jackson Ave., Suite 305, New Orleans, La. 70130 (ph 504 524-3063).

**Court Refuses To Stop Spread Of Manure** — Rural non-farming neighbors don't have the right to freedom from the smell of manure according to a recent Iowa Court of Appeals ruling. The court ruled in a recent case that offensive odors are "just part of life in rural Iowa." Richard Baer, who operates a confinement hog operation in Mitchell County, was sued by two sets of neighbors who said they occasionally became ill because of manure odors and that the odors "permeated their automobiles, drapes, carpet and clothing." The neighbors said manure from Baer's 40,000 gal. storage pit was being spread as close as 120 ft. to their homes.

The court ruled that "residents and property owners living in a rural setting must endure those annoyances and discomforts ordinary and necessary to rural life. The hog confinement operation in the present case is not a radical departure from the nature of the area in which the plaintiffs reside, unlike a situation where a factory is built within a strictly peaceful, residential area."

**New "Girls" In The Seedcorn Business** — A new seedcorn company is selling corn hybrids with girls' names rather than the traditional impersonal numbers. Betaseed, Inc., an American affiliate of a German seed company, sells varieties ranging in maturity from 85 to 105 days with the unlikely names Heidi (105-day), Kristine (100-day), Ingrid (95-day), Gretel (90-day), and Gretchen (85-day). The new varieties combine the best of U.S. and German inbred lines. Betaseed, headquartered in Shakopee, Minn., has sold sugarbeet seed throughout North America since 1970.